

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic watermark detection device having an electronic watermark detection means for detecting an electronic watermark inserted into an image signal and indicative of at least copyright information,
5 comprising:

detection result adjustment means for adjusting a detection interval of said electronic watermark based on a detection result of said electronic watermark detection means.

10 2. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said electronic watermark detection means generates a detection result of said electronic watermark and a detection interruption for notifying the
5 result, and

said detection result adjustment means accumulates the detection results of said electronic watermark based on said detection result and said
10 detection interruption from said electronic watermark detection means and adjusts said electronic watermark detection interval based on the accumulation result.

3. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 2, wherein

said detection result adjustment means adjusts
output timing of said detection interruption based on
said detection result and said detection interruption
from said electronic watermark detection means to output
the adjusted timing as an adjusted detection
interruption.

4. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 2, wherein

said detection result adjustment means adjusts
output timing of said detection interruption based on
said detection result and said detection interruption
from said electronic watermark detection means and
externally instructed detection interval set value and
set value of the number of detections to output the
adjusted timing as an adjusted detection interruption.

5. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein

said detection result adjustment means increases
said detection interval when said electronic watermark
is detected and decreases said detection interval when
none of said electronic watermark is detected.

6. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein

said electronic watermark detection means

generates a detection result of said electronic
5 watermark and a detection interruption for notifying the
result, and

said detection result adjustment means
accumulates the detection results of said
electronic watermark based on said detection result and
10 said detection interruption from said electronic
watermark detection means and adjusts said electronic
watermark detection interval based on the accumulation
result, and

increases said detection interval when said
15 electronic watermark is detected and decreases said
detection interval when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

7. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 2, wherein

said detection result adjustment means
adjusts output timing of said detection
5 interruption based on said detection result and said
detection interruption from said electronic watermark
detection means to output the adjusted timing as an
adjusted detection interruption, and

increases said detection interval when said
10 electronic watermark is detected and decreases said
detection interval when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

8. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 2, wherein

said detection result adjustment means

adjusts output timing of said detection

5 interruption based on said detection result and said detection interruption from said electronic watermark detection means and externally instructed detection interval set value and set value of the number of detections to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted
10 detection interruption, and

increases said detection interval when said electronic watermark is detected and decreases said detection interval when none of said electronic watermark is detected.

9. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said image signal is a digital image including at least an image of the MPEG (Moving Picture Experts
5 Group) standard.

10. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said image signal is a picture signal of at least a space region.

11. An electronic watermark detection method of an electronic watermark detection device for detecting an electronic watermark inserted into an image signal and indicative of at least copyright information, comprising the steps of:

detecting said electronic watermark, and
adjusting a detection interval of said electronic watermark based on a detection result of said electronic watermark.

12. The electronic watermark detection method as set forth in claim 11, wherein

at said electronic watermark detection step, a detection result of said electronic watermark and a detection interruption for notifying the result are generated, and

at said detection result adjustment step, the detection results of said electronic watermark are accumulated based on said detection result and said detection interruption from said electronic watermark detection step and said electronic watermark detection interval is adjusted based on the accumulation result.

13. The electronic watermark detection method as set forth in claim 12,

wherein at said detection result adjustment step, output timing of said detection interruption is adjusted

5 based on said detection result and said detection
interruption from said electronic watermark detection
step to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted
detection interruption.

14. The electronic watermark detection method as set
forth in claim 12, wherein

5 at said detection result adjustment step, output
timing of said detection interruption is adjusted based
on said detection result and said detection interruption
from said electronic watermark detection step and
externally instructed detection interval set value and
set value of the number of detections to output the
adjusted timing as an adjusted detection interruption.

10 15. The electronic watermark detection method as set
forth in claim 11, wherein

5 at said detection result adjustment step, said
detection interval is increased when said electronic
watermark is detected and said detection interval is
decreased when none of said electronic watermark is
detected.

16. The electronic watermark detection method as set
forth in claim 11, wherein

at said electronic watermark detection step, a
detection result of said electronic watermark and a

5 detection interruption for notifying the result are
generated, and

at said detection result adjustment step,
the detection results of said electronic
watermark are accumulated based on said detection result
10 and said detection interruption from said electronic
watermark detection step and said electronic watermark
detection interval is adjusted based on the accumulation
result, and

said detection interval is increased when said
15 electronic watermark is detected and said detection
interval is decreased when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

17. The electronic watermark detection method as set
forth in claim 12, wherein

at said detection result adjustment step,
output timing of said detection interruption is
5 adjusted based on said detection result and said
detection interruption from said electronic watermark
detection step to output the adjusted timing as an
adjusted detection interruption, and

said detection interval is increased when said
10 electronic watermark is detected and said detection
interval is decreased when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

18. The electronic watermark detection method as set forth in claim 12, wherein

at said detection result adjustment step,

output timing of said detection interruption is
5 adjusted based on said detection result and said
detection interruption from said electronic watermark
detection step and externally instructed detection
interval set value and set value of the number of
detections to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted
10 detection interruption, and

said detection interval is increased when said
electronic watermark is detected and said detection
interval is decreased when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

19. The electronic watermark detection method as set forth in claim 11, wherein

said image signal is a digital image including at
least an image of the MPEG (Moving Picture Experts
5 Group) standard.

20. The electronic watermark detection method as set forth in claim 11, wherein

said image signal is a picture signal of at least
a space region.

21. An electronic watermark detection device having

an electronic watermark detection unit which detects an
electronic watermark inserted into an image signal and
indicative of at least copyright information,
5 comprising:

detection result adjustment unit which adjusts
detection interval of said electronic watermark based on
a detection result of said electronic watermark
detection unit.

10 22. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 21, wherein

said electronic watermark detection unit
generates a detection result of said electronic
5 watermark and a detection interruption for notifying the
result, and

said detection result adjustment unit accumulates
the detection results of said electronic watermark based
on said detection result and said detection interruption
10 from said electronic watermark detection unit and
adjusts said electronic watermark detection interval
based on the accumulation result.

23. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 22, wherein

said detection result adjustment unit adjusts
output timing of said detection interruption based on
5 said detection result and said detection interruption

from said electronic watermark detection unit to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted detection interruption.

24. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 22, wherein

said detection result adjustment unit adjusts output timing of said detection interruption based on said detection result and said detection interruption from said electronic watermark detection unit and externally instructed detection interval set value and set value of the number of detections to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted detection interruption.

25. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 21, wherein

said detection result adjustment unit increases said detection interval when said electronic watermark is detected and decreases said detection interval when none of said electronic watermark is detected.

26. The electronic watermark detection device as set forth in claim 21, wherein

said electronic watermark detection unit generates a detection result of said electronic watermark and a detection interruption for notifying the result, and

said detection result adjustment unit
accumulates the detection results of said
electronic watermark based on said detection result and
said detection interruption from said electronic
watermark detection unit and adjusts said electronic
watermark detection interval based on the accumulation
result, and

increases said detection interval when said
electronic watermark is detected and decreases said
detection interval when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

27. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 22, wherein

said detection result adjustment unit
adjusts output timing of said detection
interruption based on said detection result and said
detection interruption from said electronic watermark
detection unit to output the adjusted timing as an
adjusted detection interruption, and

increases said detection interval when said
electronic watermark is detected and decreases said
detection interval when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

28. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 22, wherein

said detection result adjustment unit
adjusts output timing of said detection
5 interruption based on said detection result and said
detection interruption from said electronic watermark
detection unit and externally instructed detection
interval set value and set value of the number of
detections to output the adjusted timing as an adjusted
10 detection interruption, and

increases said detection interval when said
electronic watermark is detected and decreases said
detection interval when none of said electronic
watermark is detected.

15 29. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 21, wherein

said image signal is a digital image including at
least an image of the MPEG (Moving Picture Experts
5 Group) standard.

30. The electronic watermark detection device as set
forth in claim 21, wherein

said image signal is a picture signal of at least
a space region.